What is claimed is:

501.

A method for enhancing the growth of preterm infants comprising administering to said infants a growth enhancing amount of DHA and ARA.

- 2. The method of Claim 1 wherein DHA and ARA are supplemented into infant formula.
- 3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of ARA:DHA is 1:2 to 5:1.

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The method of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of ARA:DHA is 1.1 to 3:1.

- 5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of ARA:DHA is about 2:1.
- 6. The method of Claim 2 wherein the infant formula comprises DHA in an amount of about 2 mg/100 kcal to about 50 mg/100 kcal and ARA in an amount of about 4 mg/100 kcal to about 100 mg/100 kcal.
- 7. The method of Claim 2 wherein the infant formula comprises DHA in an amount of about 5 mg/100 kcal to about 33 mg/100 kcal and ARA in an amount of about 10 mg/100 kcal to about 67 mg/100 kcal.



- 8. The method of Claim 2 wherein the infant formula comprises DHA in an amount of about 15 mg/100 kcal to about 20 mg/100 kcal and ARA in an amount of about 30 mg/100 kcal to about 40 mg/100 kcal.
- 9. The method of Claim 1 wherein the amount of time to achieve growth equivalent to normal terms breast fed infants is less than 9 months corrected age.
- 10. The method of Claim 1 wherein the amount of time to achieve growth equivalent to normal terms breast fed infants is less than 6 months corrected age.
- 11. The method of Claim 1 wherein the amount of time to achieve growth equivalent to normal terms breast fed infants is less than 4 months corrected age.
- 12. The method of Claim 1 wherein the amount of time to achieve growth equivalent to normal terms breast fed infants is less than 2 months corrected age.
- 13. The method of Claim 1 wherein the amount of time to achieve growth equivalent to normal terms breast fed infants is no greater than term corrected age.

